

I am increasingly concerned about the abuses that have been occurring concerning our public media (television and radio in particular).

I have just learned of Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas. This is outrageous and yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves.

The public is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate. Apparently Pappas Telecasting has recommended that others can "purchase" an equal amount of response time, which in no way is equitable.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on

whether Pappas truly
intends to serve the
public interest.
Their actions show
why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them.
Further, they show
why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than just a
returned postcard.
Thank you.